

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01 OPR-02 AF-10 NEA-10

SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USSS-00 DRC-01 /160 W

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R 121801Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8898

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 5862

EO 11652 GDA

TAGS: PFOR, XF, LY, BE

REF: TRIPOLI 1300

1. FONOFF SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF OCTOBER 11 THAT LIBYANS IN TRIPOLI AND SYRIANS IN NEW YORK HAVE APPROACHED BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING REPORTS THAT VOLUNTEERS BEING RECRUITED IN BELGIUM TO FIGHT FOR ISRAELIS AND THAT REPORT OF SUCH RECRUITMENT HAS BEEN CARRIED ON BEIRUT RADIO. SOURCE SAID THAT NO TRUTH TO REPORTS, THAT SUCH RECRUITMENT AGAINST LAW, AND THAT IF ANY RECRUITMENT DISCOVERED IT WOULD BE IMMEDIATELY TERMINATED. FONOFF HASS SO INFORMED ARABS THROUGH BELGIAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS AND IS CONSIDERING ISSUING FORMAL PUBLIC DENIAL. SOURCE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT GOB COULD NOT PREVENT BELGIANS FROM VOLUNTEERING ON THIER OWN TO JOIN ISRAELI CAUSE.

2. SOURCE ALSO BRIEFED EMBOFF ON LIBYAN FONMIN'S DEMARCHE TO BELGIAN AMBASSADOR(REFTEL). BELGIAN AMBASSADOR REPORTED OCTOBER 9 THAT FONMIN HAD EXPLAINED LIBYAN SUPPORT FOR RECONQUEST OF ARAB TERRITORIES AND HAD COMMENTED THAT IN RECENT MONTHS ARABS HAD NOTED CHANGE IN EUROPEAN ATTITUDE TOWARD MIDDLE EAST AND GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF ARAB POSITION.
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FONMIN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GOB WOULD CONTINUE TO ACT

INDEPENDENTLY AND NOT CHANGE POLICY AS RESULT OF "EXTERNAL PRESSURES." ACCORDING TO BELGIAN AMBASSADOR, FONMIN MADE DEMARCHE TO REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL WESTERN AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES EXCEPT US AND USSR.

3. ARAB AMBASSADORS IN BRUSSELS AS A GROUP SOUGHT EUROPEAN ATTENTION AND SYMPATHY IN PRESS CONFERENCE OCTOBER 9. CONFERENCE HELD JOINTLY BY REPRESENTATIVES OF EGYPT, LIBYA, SYRIA, ALGERIA, LEBANON, MOROCCO, TUNISIA AND SAUDI ARABIA. JORDAN NOT REPRESENTED. AMBASSADORS BLAMED FIGHTING ON ISRAELI EXPANSIONISM AND MILITARISM. THEY DENIED REPORTS QUOTING EGYPTIAN FONMIN ZAYYAT AS ACKNOWLEDGING THAT ARABS HAD INITIATED FIGHTING AND MAINTAINED THAT EGYPT AND SYRIA HAD COUNTERATTACKED AFTER ISRAELI NAVAL AND AIR ATTACKS OCTOBER 6. AMBASSADOR ALSO NOTED THAT SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING BELGIAN (BRUSSELS 5253), HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN TO ISRAEL OVER "EXPANSIONIST PROGRAM" OF PARTY NOW IN POWER IN ISRAEL.
BOOCHEVER

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